Howland Wood - Curatorial

Woodward, Alphonse Marie Tracey
[Philatelist, Shanghai, China]

1921-1935

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TELEPHOHE C. 4494.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "ESTAINCOR"

CODES: A. B. C. 5TH; ROSS-MOSS; BEDFORD MCNEILL; WETMORE.

A. M. TRACEY WOODWARD
Chinese P. O. Box No. 80
Shanghai, China.

Shanghai, November 3rd. 1921.

Mr. Howland Wood,
Curator, American Numismatic Society's
Museum,
New York.

Dear Sir,

My friend, Mr. J. Allan of the Department of Coins and Medals of the British Museum, London, has suggested to me to send you a copy of the small articles on Chinese Coins which I have contributed to the "New China Review".

I trust the enclosed will be acceptable to you, and should you want anything from China that I can procure, I shall be happy if you will command me.

Yours very truly,

A. M. Tracey Woodward

December 10th, 1921

A. M. Tracey Woodward, Esq.
Chinese P.O.Box No.80
Shanghai, China

Dear Sir:

Your favour of November 3rd enclosing the two pamphlets on Chinese coins at hand, and I want to thank you most sincerely for these. I had heard of your pamphlet on T'ang Chi-Yao Coins, and I wrote to my friend, Mr. Guiseppi Ros, asking if he could locate this account for me.

We are most interested in Chinese coins here and have really a wonderful collection of the ancient pieces, comprising Mr. Reilly's collection which includes several important collections, one of which being the late Henry A. Ramsden's coins of Yokohama.

Unfortunately, we have acquired the modern coins in a haphazard manner, and do not have anywhere as near a good collection as we would like. This is due largely to the fact that we collect everything and it is impossible to follow up any one subject intensively. Also, our funds are very limited.

Our Treasurer, Mr. Reilly, is especially interested in Far Eastern coins and is very anxious to get into personal communication with you, and I think will write you very shortly.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

February 23rd, 1922

A. M. Tracey Woodward, Esq.
Chinese P.O.Bx No.80.
Shanghai, China

Dear Mr. Woodward:

Your monograph on "On Mexican Dollars" received and I have read it with much interest. I am really surprised that you have picked up so many different dates and mints, and I think you are to be congratulated.

I am surprised that the Alamos and Hermosillo mints got to China in such quantities, although when one comes to think of it, all of these dollars were made very largely for export. People who have been to Mexico tell me that they very seldom see dollars there; the largest denomination being the 50-centavo piece. This fact, as I understand it at least, applies to the past generation or so.

An old collector in Salem, Mass.- Mr. John Robinson, has one or two sets of six or eight pieces of the Carrolus dollars with different numbers engraved on them, which the old sea captains used to judge the different exchange values of the dollars they handled in the Treaty ports; so evidently a hundred years ago, different sizes and mints had a trifle different value among the Chinese bankers.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

April 4th, 1922

A. M. Tracey Woodward, Esq.
Chinese P.O. Box No.80
Shanghai, China

Dear Mr. Woodward:

First of all I want to thank you for the report of the Nye Teye-Ch'ung Medallions of Anhui, which I have read with considerable profit.

I note you are a member of the Royal Numismatic Society; why not become a member of ours? We get out occasional monographs on varied subjects, and the dues are but Five Dollars a year.

Mr. Reilly has not been very well this winter; and I know for a fact that he has not written many letters which he intended to write. He and I are very keenly interested in all Oriental coins. We have been building up the Society's collection to the best of our ability, but, of course, it is impossible to get, or even know, about odd and minor issues. It is extremely hard to say just what we want and do not want. It is pretty safe to state that we do not get new issues until some time after they come out, and only scarce or out-of-the-way issues at random. Our ancient and cast coins are very complete considering everything; our copper and silver coins of the Empire are fairly complete, but from the time of the Republic we have just got a smattering.

I have always been interested in the coinage of West China and Turkestan. The older issues we have pretty well represented - but not so, the newer issues.

Mr. Ros, by fits and starts, sends us some of his duplicates; we had the pleasure of seeing him here about a year and a half ago.

I trust when you get to this country some time that you will visit us.

Very truly yours,

HW/E

Curator

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CODES: { A. B. C. 5TH; ROSS-MOSS; BEDFORD MCNEILL; WETMORE.

A. M. TRACEY WOODWARD
Chinese P. O. Box No. 80
Shanghai, China.

Shanghai, May 11th. 1922.

Dear Mr. Howland Wood,

I have to thank you for your letters of the 23rd. February and April 4th. last.

I have received a note from Mr. John Robinson of Salem, Mass. in which he says that at your suggestion he has sent me a copy of his book listing the library he gave to the Essex Institute of Salem. It was very kind of him to think of me, and I am certainly thankful to him, especially as the list is a very complete and important one, and will be quite useful to me.

I have to thank you for your suggestion to become an Associate of the American Numismatic Society, and I am returning you the card you kindly sent me, duly signed.

The coinage of West China is certainly very interesting, and I am now concentrating my efforts on the coins of Chinese Turkestan, in which I have had the assistance of the Superior of the Catholic Fathers in Sinkiang Province, who has rendered me considerable help; towards the end of this year I intend writing on these coins after my material is fairly complete.

I should be pleased to send the Society some of my duplicates of Chinese Coins, but being unaware of what the Society has, it is rather difficult for me to know what

would be appreciated. The last time I was in New York was in 1917 when I met a numismatist by the name of Adams who, as far as my memory serves me, lived in 215th. street, but I was not interested in numismatics at the time, only in philately.
It may interest you to learn that I am to publish towards early next year, my book on the stamps of Japan, -a monster work which has absorbed my time for the past seven years; it is to be placed on sale at G.$60.- for the two volumes. Mr. John N. Luff of the Scott Stamp and Coin Co. with whom I am personally acquainted, knows the magnitude of this work.

I cannot say when I will visit the United States again, but when I do go, you may rest assured that I shall not miss the pleasure to make your acquaintance.

Yours very truly,

Arthur Macgregor Woodward

W/P.

May 31st, 1922

A. M. Tracey Woodward, Esq.
Chinese P.O.Box No.80
Shanghai, China

Dear Mr. Woodward:

Your monograph on the Influence of Yuan Shih K'ai on Chinese Coins at hand, and I beg to thank you very much for this. I read it through with much interest and learned a number of things.

I was suspecting that the Yuan Shih K'ai dollars had gotten hold in China, and I see from your account that they really have.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

June 20th, 1922

A. M. Tracey Woodward, Esq.
Chinese P.O. Box No.80
Shanghai, China

Dear Mr. Woodward:

Your letter to Mr.Wood came while he was in hospital after an operation which proved to be less serious than we had feared. He is now well on the road to recovery, and he has asked me to acknowledge your letter and to thank you for the application card for membership which was enclosed. This will be presented at the next meeting of our Council, and we will communicate with you thereupon.

I note that you are planning to write on the coins of Chinese Turkestan as well as to bring out two volumes of stamps of Japan.

We shall be very glad to see you when you come to the United States; and if in the meantime we can be of any service to you in a numismatic way, we shall be very happy.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN/E

November 16th, 1922

A. M. Tracey Woodward, Esq.
P.O.Box no.80
Shanghai, China

Dear Mr. Woodward:

Very many thanks for the Five Dollars to cover Membership dues. Also, I wish to thank you for the copy of Minted Shantung Coins which has just come to hand. I have not, of course, had time to read it yet but feel sure I shall much enjoy doing so in the near future.

The other day I picked up here in New York, a ten and twenty cent coin from Kwang-Si Province. These are in a brassy copper. Are they making there any silver coins or just using these token pieces?

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

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A. [illegible]
Chinese P. O. Box [illegible]
Shanghai, China.

Shanghai, [illegible]

Howland Wood, Esq.,
New York.

Dear Mr. Howland Wood,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 16th. ultimo, also the card for your file which I have duly filled and return enclosed.

KWANG-SI COINS. - The two brassy copper pieces of 10 and 20 cents which you secured, are only proof pieces of the silver coins in circulation in Kwang-si province, no tokens are used there. But there are several kinds of the twenty cent piece, some spelt KWANG-SI and some KWANG-SEA.

With kind regards,

Yours truly,

A. W. Haggard Woodward

W/p

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A. M. TRACEY WOODWARD
P. O. Box No. 1044
Shanghai, China.

Shanghai, January 14th. 1924.

Mr. John Reilly Jr.

Acting President,

The American Numismatic Society,

New York,

Dear Mr. Reilly,

I am in receipt of your letter of December 5th. last, appealing for a donation of specimen of coins.

I have today sent you by a separate package under the Parcel Post system, a box containing about 30 pieces of Chinese coind both in Silver and Copper. These I hastily made up from duplicates I had, and despatched same without loss of time. It may be that you already have some of these coins, but I have no means to judge as to whether the Society's collection comprise them or not.

Thanking you for the Season's Greetings you send, and heartily reciprocating same.

Very Sincerely yours,

A. M. Tracey Woodward

February 21st, 1924

A. M. Tracey Woodward, Esq.
P.O.Box No.1044
Shanghai, China

Dear Mr. Woodward:

We received the coins today which you so kindly sent us, and we are very much delighted with them. I have not as yet compared them with our own, but I know for certain that not more than four are duplicates. I am more than interested in the Turkestan pieces; we have been trying to give a good deal of attention to this series. Your sending us this number of pieces has made me wonder whether it would be possible to obtain more of them - especially the older forms, both large and small, from the different cities. I understand that there are some queer different ones from Urga. We should be very glad to pay for them or re-imburse you in any way that you saw fit. Even if we got duplicates, it would make little difference as we could get rid of them very easily here on account of their oddity. I will try to send you rubbings very shortly of what we have of these.

Please accept our very best thanks for your gift to our Society, which we very highly appreciate.

Very truly yours,

Curator

March 15th, 1924

A. M. Tracey Woodward, Esq.
P.O. Box 1044
Shanghai, China

Dear Mr. Woodward:

As I wrote you in my last letter, we were very much interested in the Turkestan which you sent us. I am enclosing, herewith, rubbings of all of our Chinese Turkestan coins beginning with Yakoob beg of Kashgar. We are also interested in the Thibet coins. I was wondering if you could pick up some of these Turkestan and Thibetan coins, and I am enclosing a Twenty-dollar bill, with which to start. You will notice that we are very weak in the more recent pieces. I omitted to make rubbings of the copper pieces. We have a number of them but could easily get rid of any that we might have.

As for Thibet, we have several of the thin silver coins with the names of Chinese Emperors; and have the set of three pieces made in Szechuan for Thibet. We lack, however, a similar piece with the Emperor's head made in Yunnan.

I wonder if you know my wife's cousin who lives in Shanghai - she is Mrs. Charles Ferguson. Ferguson, himself, has something to do with starting knitting mills in China. If you by any chance know them, please give them our regards.

Very truly yours,

Curator

Encs.

C. HOWARTH & CO.

CABLE ADDRESS,
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P. O. BOX NO. 1.

Letter No. _____

Codes : { A. B. C. 5TH EDITION
{ BENTLEY'S

Bushire, July 5th. 1924 19
(Persia)

Mr. Howland Wood,

Curator, The American Numismatic Society

Broadway, New York,

Dear Mr. Howland Wood

It is not negligence on my part that your two letters under dates of February 21st. and March 15th. last have remained unanswered until now, but since February last, I have been on the move all the time in India and Persia, and it follows that my correspondence suffered a bit therefrom, especially as all my foreign letters were reforwarded to here from China, but I expect to return to Shanghai sometime during the close of the present year, and much as I would like to be of real assistance to the Society in the matter of which you mention, I regret that for the immediate present, I cannot do so being so far away from my base; still I do not wish to completely discourage you, and I am taking a very careful note of what you write, and as soon as I reach Shanghai, I will at once look into the matter, but please, do not expect too much from me, I will do my best for you, it is the most I can say for the present. The $20.00 bill you sent me, is duly to hand, and later on I will account for the same.

With best wishes to the Society, and kind regards to your goodself.

Very truly yours,

Arm Tracy Woodward

May 15th, 1926

A. M. Tracey Woodward, Esq.
P.O.Box 1044
Shanghai, China

Dear Mr. Woodward:

Although we appreciate that you are very busy and away from Shanghai a great part of the time, we have been wondering of late whether or not you have been able to pick up anything in coins for the Society with the twenty dollars which was sent you some time ago.

One of our officers, Mr. John Reilly, has been in China for the past year and was for a while in Shanghai. It is possible that you may have met him. We have received no word from him lately and are uncertain where he is just at this time.

Very truly yours,

Curator

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ROOM 41 YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK BUILDING

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P.O. Box 1044

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "ESTAINCOR"
CODES: {A. B. C. 5TH; ROSS-MOSS: BEDFORD MCNEILL; WETMORE.

Shanghai, June 23rd. 1926.

Mr. Howland Wood,

New York,

Dear Mr. Wood,

I was certainly glad to hear from you by your letter of the 15th. May last. I returned to China recently after an absence of more than a year, and now I shall stay here for some time yet. As a consequence of my long absences from here, I have not been able to pick up anything for your Society, and besides, I do not think that anything appreciable could be obtained for the sum of $ 20.-, coins are expensive if just a bit out of the ordinary, and if you will inform me what to do with the money, I shall be glad to comply with your wishes.

When I returned here, I heared that Mr. Reilly was in China, but he has never enquired for me, nor called at my offices or residence, I later heared that he was in Peking, so I wrote to him a friendly letter addressed to the American Legation, that was some months ago, but evident-ly he did not consider it worth while to reply, since I have not heared from him. I understand, however, that when in Shanghai, he bought some Chinese rare coins cheaply, which the very same sellers to him later on explained to me how easily they had fooled such an expert as him with not too well made forgeries. I trust these stories are not true for the sake of the Socirty. With kind regards,

Very truly yours,

Arthur Woodward

August 4th, 1926

Mr. A. M. Tracey Woodward
P.O.Box 1044
Shanghai, China

Dear Mr. Woodward:

Many thanks for your letter of June 23rd which came while I was on my vacation.

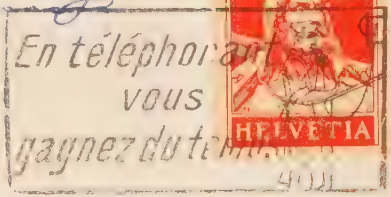
My idea with regard to coins to the amount of twenty dollars was not for rare coins but the newer issues as they come out which might be gotten from circulation. We get very few of these in this country. In fact, we have hardly a coin here which was issued in China in the past five years! The few that do get over and get into the dealers' hands are held at prices wholly out of the way.

I am much surprised at what you say about Mr. Reilly - and yet, again, I am not! For we have had no word direct from him for a whole year. We received a letter on his arrival in China. I am most anxious to see what coins he purchased and will look with much interest at the pieces he got in Shanghai. If I can trace them, I will let you know my opinion as it may be of value to you.

Very truly yours,

Curator

Via Cherbourg



Geneva January 20th 1930

Please allow me to thank you for the kind reception extended to me, and for the beautiful coins exhibited to me when I was in Newyork.

I trust this will find you in excellent health, and with most sincere regards.

Ann Mary Woodward

Mr. Howland Wood
American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 156th Street
New York
Amérique

1506 Genève. Palais des Nations

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TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "ESTAINCOR"
CODES: {A. B. C. 5TH; ROSS-MOSS: BEDFORD MCNEILL; WETMORE.

Shanghai, March 5th, 1931.

The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, Between 155th and 156th Streets,
New York, U.S.A.

Dear Sirs:

Please find enclosed draft for $5.00 on the National City Bank of New York, Wall Street Branch, in payment of my dues for 1931.

Kindly note that as I am leaving China permanently, I would ask you to make a special entry in your address book under my name, so that in future all communications from you will be addressed to me to:

Chateau Millefleurs,
CADAUJAC, Gironde,
France,

With kind regards to Mr. Howland Wood and Mr. John Reilly,

Very truly yours,

Ann Tracy Woodward

encls.

CHATEAU MILLEFLEURS
CADAUJAC (GIRONDE)
FRANCE

21, 1931.

Mr. A. M. Tracey Woodward
Chateau Millefle urs
Cadaujac, Girond e,
France.

Dear Sir:

I was hoping that you would drop in again t o the
Society on one of your trips back and forth from
China. How are you getting along with the publica-
tion of the Minte d Coins of China? You may remember,
you were going to send us the pamphlets as they appea
rather than holdi g until the whole article was done.

I have the sad ne s to report to you that in January
Mr. John Reilly p assed away. He was the one , you may
remember, who had a wonderful collection of Chinese
coins here at the Society's building. Trust ing to
hear from you, I b g to remain

Very truly,

HW:JG Curator

A. M. TRACEY WOODWARD
Chateau Millefleurs
Cadaujac (Gironde) France

June 26th 1931

Dear Mr. Rowland Wood.

I have before me your letter undated of May 21st. I could not reply earlier because, I have been away from here to China and only returned on the 17th inst.

I regret that I have not yet been able to send you copies of my articles on Chinese coins; I have many spare copies and can only beg your patience in the matter due to the following explanations. After passing through New York in December 1929, I went over to Switzerland until March 1930, studying values of property &c. with a view of making a home there, then returned to China, via Los Angeles, in May, when my library and furniture were all packed in cases and stored away. I left for Europe again on July 8th with all my family through the Indian Ocean, and went all over Europe with my wife, house hunting, finally buying the above chateau in France last December. After placing my 4 children as boarders in schools here, my wife and I again left for China early January to liquidate certain matters, among which was to make shipment of our 222 cases of goods and chattels that we had stored in Shanghai. In these cases are packed my numismatic articles, and I will not be able to obtain my shipment before about the

middle of July, and then the unpacking must commence. So you will doubtless understand why I have asked you to wait, and furthermore why I still ask you to please have a little more patience. I am not forgetting you at all, in fact I have often thought of you since I had the pleasure to meet you in Newyork, and just as soon as I am ready, I will again communicate with you.

I am really so sorry to hear of the sad news of Mr Tom Reilly. I had always enjoyed the thought of meeting such an enthusiastic Canadian numismatist, but fate now denies me this pleasure. With him crossing the Great Divide I feel sure the American Numismatic Society have suffered a great loss.

With most kind regards

very truly yours

Howland Wood

July 7, 1931.

Mr. A. M. Tracey Woodward
Chateau Millefleurs
Cadaujac (Gironde) France.

Dear Mr. Woodward:

I wrote you largely as I had not heard from you for a long while and I wanted to acquaint you with Mr. Reilly's death. I was most glad to hear from you and trust you are settled down into congenial surroundings and that you will enjoy your Chateau. I can see with your 223 cases that you should be able to pretty well feel at home. I also hoped you might pass through New York again, as I certainly would enjoy seeing you once more.

Do not bother at all in hurrying to send us those monographs. Everything will come in due time. We have not been picking up much from China of late. I have been thoroughly disgusted with what is coming out of China the past two or three years; absolute fakes and modern fantasies of coins that never existed, although I imagine most of them have been made at regular government mints. The Reilly collection, although not ours, is still here and will remain here. I think, eventually, it will be given us, at least I hope so.

Veryttruly yours,

HW:JG

A. M. TRACEY WOODWARD
Chez les Millefleurs
Cadaujac (Gironde) France

January 19th. 1932

Mr. Howland Wood
American Numismatic Society,
New York,

Dear Mr. Wood,

I am sure you will pardon my apparent indifference in not replying to your letter of July last before this, but the fact was that I wanted to get unpacked my heavy shipment of furnitures that I brought over from China, and in doing this, get hold of the various copies of my promised articles in the "China Journal" on the 10-CASH pieces of China. I did not wish to write you without being able to send you those copies. I am sending you under separate cover, 12 articles, being Article I to XII, the article XIII was published during August 1931, but I have not yet received the usual author's copies, as soon as received I shall not forget you. Besides this last mentioned article, there will be about four or five more to complete the series (being: Republican; Shansi & Shantung; Szechuen; Yunnan and Addenda & Corrigenda), I am now working on the Republican lot. When the whole series will be finished, as I always get 100 extra author's copies, I intend to have the several articles bound in book form, which will make quite a bulky book, will send you one. this may be in a year's time.

My coin collection has now been opened up and placed in its proper place, thus making it available for examination, I could manage this only in November last, so you can see that I had a lot to do to get installed in my new Home in France. Just at present the paper hangers are busy doing up the walls, then comes the painting

of the woodwork, and after that the renovation of the parquet floors, hence there is still work ahead of me for the next 4 or 5 months. But it must come to an end. And now that I am not far from the United States, let me renew the invitation I made you when I was in New York last December 1929, when I promised you to allow you the full use of my Chinese Turkistan collection for the manuscript you wanted to write on these coins, whenever you can manage it, on a holiday or otherwise, you are welcome to come and stay in my home as long as you like, provided it does not extend to a full year, I am sure you will understand me.

I am taking the liberty to enclose a bank cheque for the sum of $3.50, which, I would ask you to kindly distribute as follows: $3.00 in payment of my 1932 subscription, and 50 cents to send me a copy of "Numismatic Notes and Monographs" No.26; I seem to miss this number, and as I am keen to have the complete set, I want to fill in what I lack.

Best wishes for the New Year, and with kind regards,

Very truly yours,

Archer M. Huntington

Send Monograph No 26 - 2-3-32

February 10, 1932.

Mr. A. M. Bracey Woodward
Chateau Millefleurs
Cadaujac(Gironde) France.

Dear Mr. Woodward:

I am glad to know that you are slowly getting settled and I guess you are rather pleased to be out of China at the present time. I have an aunt and one or two cousins there now in Shanghai.

I want to thank you for sending on those monographs of the 10 cash pieces. I have skimmed through these and I am absolutely amazed at the amount of work and study that you have put into this series.

Things over here are going along quietly. Most everybody is marking time and complaining of how poor they are, whether they really are or not. No one here has the income they had a few years ago.

I doubt if I can take advantage of your offer to visit you and study your Turkistan collection but certainly will keep it as a bright object to try to do.

I beg to acknowledge your check for $5.50 and I have already sent you Monograph 26. I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

H:JG

A. M. TRACEY WOODWARD
TELEPH. 9
TELEGRAMME. WOODWARD CADAUJAC
Code Bentley

Château Millefleurs
Cadaujac, Gironde, France

September 27th. 1935

Dear Mr. Howland Wood,

Such a long time since I have had the pleasure to hear from you, hope you have been enjoying the very best of healths, and are still doing so.

[illegible] earnestly collected the minted coins of that country and were able to secure very many unique pieces of that country, not to speak of a large number of exceedingly rare ones also. It is now five years since I have retired to France, here, in my delightful Home, six miles from Bordeaux, and since I have been here, I have not been able to secure many more coins from China, and hence my numismatic energy has flagged somewhat, only to revive in another direction, in philately, where material is more plentyful.

I have been seriously thinking over the situation, and have decided to communicate to you my views, trusting that it will not only meet with your approbation, but with your assistance as well. I am now getting old, -66-, have four children who have no numismatic [illegible] nations, and who, after I have taken the long trip across The Great Divide, will probably quarrel between themselves for the pos--session of my collection of Chinese Minted Coins, the greatest that has ever been assembled in the world, the next one to which hardly

comes up to a quarter of what I have succeeded in 20 years to get together.

To be blunt, I wish to sell. There is no place in the world where, a fine collection like the one I have, should repose for ever, than in the sacred prescints of The American Numismatic Society in New York; I am also an American, and it is only natural that I should like to see my collection in the possession of my own country. But, I realize that there are difficulties ahead of us both, and this is what I propose. Please do not taboo the proposal precipitately, let us explore every means and possibility to bring the matter to a mutually satisfactory conclusion.

Whatever you may lay before your Committee, or whatever the public should know, to you at least I must be frank, aboveboard, and explain the facts just as they are. I am not sending you a long list of details as to what the collection contains, —that can come later on, but I may mention that I have so far paid in actual cash, a cost totalling $ 83,000.- or so, Chinese dollars of course. In connection with this, I desire to draw your attention to the follo--wing facts:

1° That during 1920 to 1924 I actually spent $47,000.- at a time when the Chinese Dollar was worth over $1.50 of the currency of the United States.

2° That later on up to 1929, the Chinese dollar fell in value as compared to the United States dollar.

3° Interest on the sunken money has now run for over ten years, which is not included in the $83,000.- mentioned, that being the actual cash disbursed by me, which I can prove by the Ledger of my estate which has been regularly kept.

4° That my work and organisation in assembling together such a collection on the spot in China, is not taken into consideration at all.

Despite these facts, I am not asking an excessive price, what I desire to receive for it is U.S.C.$ 100,000.-.

Now as regards the most difficult problem, the payment. I am fully aware that the American Numismatic Society cannot possibly afford to disburse such a sum of money, it not being available. But here I have a proposal to make. My plan is:-

1° Sell to the American Numismatic Society the collection for $ 100,000.- present currency.

2° That a subscription List for the purchase be opened to the American public in general for contributions; the List to be opened by and in the name of th American Numismatic Society to acquire the collection as a National Relic so that it may not pass into the hands of others.

3° That this subscription List be opened for the sum of $125,000 or less, the worth of the collection, to which the seller is willing to subscribe the sum of $25,000.- or respectively less, (this for the eyes of the millionaires in the States), and that the American Numismatic Society subscribes the sum of $5,000.-

4° That I consent to personally circulate this subscription List, aided by the Society in supplying me such information as millionaires names all over the States, &/or such other Numismatic societies that would feel disposed to make contributions, also, that the headquarters of such a movement be located in the buildings of the American Numismatic Society

in New York, and supply me help in the way of stenographers &c.

5° That all payments be made by subscribers as donations direct to and in the name of the American Numismatic Society, which in turn will effect payments in round figures as instalment payments to me against my receipt up to the sum of $100,000.-

6° That to carry on this work I am willing to remain in the United States for many months (over 6 or even more) so as to energetically push forward the completion of the subscription List.

7° That I set no time limit for the complete payment to me of the full price agreed upon, but this within reason.

8° That I am ready to work several weeks in the buildings of the Society to arrange the collection in any other manner than in the trays that they are exposed in at present by me, should the Society so desire it for their show cases.

9° That I am willing to deliver in New York the entire collection immediately the subscription List is opened by the Society, and the sum of $5,000.- is paid to me as the first instal-ment.

10° That should the subscription List be fully covered by the public, the American Numismatic Society is authorized to re-imburse itself the $5,000.- paid to me as the 1st. instal-ment.

What kind of a more reasonable proposal can I make? I appeal to you, think it over. If the Subscription List does not get filled up, the collection costs the Society only $5,000.-, if it does, then it will not cost anything to the Society. But of course I must have the weight of the prestige of the American Numismatic Society to inspire

confidence in the Subscription List, which will have to be signed by the Directing Committee of the Society. The risk as far as I can see, is all on my shoulders, but I am willing to work so as to reduce this risk, but must have the Society's moral aid.

Please let me have your views on the above.

Yours very sincerely,

Arthur Lacy Woodward

EDWARD T. NEWELL
PRESIDENT

SYDNEY P. NOE
SECRETARY

CABLE ADDRESS:
"NUMISMA" NEW YORK

HARROLD E. GILLINGHAM
TREASURER

HOWLAND WOOD
CURATOR

TELEPHONE:
AUDUBON 3-4141

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
BROADWAY BETWEEN 155TH
AND 156TH STREETS
NEW YORK

November 4, 1935.

Mr. E. T. Newell
President
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway and 156th Street
New York City.

My dear Mr. Newell:

I am herewith handing you a letter from A. M. Tracey Woodward to be laid before the Council. I have no idea of the number of pieces contained in his collection but I do know that it comprises about every variety of the struck coins of China, the issue of which began about 1896. It includes specimens of the few gold pieces China has struck, including the dubious 40, 50 and 60 Tael pieces that came on the market some years ago. The collection is really enormous as he has gone into every sort of a die variety and, as most of the dies were cut largely by hand there are countless die varieties of the silver and copper coins. I have told you personally my views and reactions. As I must write Mr. Tracey Woodward I would like a definite expression from the Council as he has laid the matter really before them.

Very truly yours,

Howland Wood

HW:JG

Curator

November 4, 1935.

Mr. E. T. Newell
President
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway and 156th Street
New York City.

My dear Mr. Newell:

I am herewith handing you a letter from A. B. Tracey Woodward to be laid before the Council. I have no idea of the number of pieces contained in his collection but I do know that it comprises about every variety of the struck coins of China, the issue of which began about 1896. It includes specimens of the few gold pieces China has struck, including the dubious 40, 50 and 60 Tael pieces that came on the market some years ago. The collection is really enormous as he has gone into every sort of a die variety and, as most of the dies were cut largely by hand there are countless die varieties of the silver and copper coins. I have told you personally my views and reactions. As I must write Mr. Tracey Woodward I would like a definite expression from the Council as he has laid the matter really before them.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

November 18, 1935.

Mr. A. M. Tracey Woodward
Chateau Millefleurs
Cadaujac, Gironde, France.

Dear Mr. Woodward:

I have delayed answering your letter of September 27th as I wished to lay the contents of it before our Council. Before this, however, I talked with our President and two other officers, so that they would be familiar with the proposition when brought up at the meeting. They discussed it at considerable length but could not see their way clear in any way to accept your offer. The Society, although, it has weathered the depression has done so on a greatly reduced budget and our Society's finances for 1935 are not in as good shape as they have been for the previous four years. As much of our investments are in mortgages that have now begun to be in not as good shape as they have been. In other words, we are beginning to feel the depression more than at any other time. As a matter of fact, we have had to pass the hat around to meet our expenses for this year. The Council consequently felt that they could not think of attempting to even raise the initial $5000.00 to start the project going. Also, they thought that it would be impossible at the present to interest any of the rich to make contributions. Most of the Council have their ear pretty close to the ground and are absolutely conversant with the trend of charities, donations, etc.

About a year ago, we had the chance of taking our pick from a large collection that was being put on the market. In fact, we had first chance to take what we wished. We started to raise a subscription and although a number contributed the amounts contributed by individuals were so small we were able to buy very few pieces - in fact the subscription could be called a failure. I have purposely gone into details as I wanted to lay before you just how the situation is and also the impossibility of attempting to raise any money. Several of our richer members and well-to-do collectors have passed away during the past few years and no one has taken their places. Also, those that we do know and could call upon have been especially hard hit.

Also, there is another angle that enters into the question and that is it has been the Society's policy to have as well a rounded out collection as possible without having too much of an overabundance in any one field exdept pertaining to North and South America. I think they felt that if any great amount of money was laid out it should be devoted more to those coins that interest our public, namely ancient coins such as Greek, Roman, etc. and the coins of North and South America. As a matter of fact that has been our policy for a number of years.

I was very glad to hear from you and appreciate your desire to have our Society contain your really wonderful collection, but I know that it would be almost an hopeless task to attempt to do it. I remain

Very truly yours,

HH:JG Curator

A. M. TRACEY WOODWARD
TÉLÉPH.: 9
TÉLÉGRAMME: "WOODWARD"-CADAUJAC
Code: "Bentley"

Château Millefleurs
Cadaujac, Gironde, France

December 3rd. 1935

Dear Mr. Howland Wood,

Please let me thank you for your letter of the 18th. November last, and for the very frank and open manner you have so kindly clearly explained to me the position of your Committee. Under the circumstances, there is nothing more to be done, except to say that I still keep my offer open for future consideration, provided, of course, during the interval my collection does not get sold in other directions. You will have doubtless realized that I want to sell anyway, and this will make me explore all means available to find a buyer or buyers.

With most kind regards,

Very truly yours,

A. M. Tracey Woodward

Coins of Wu Tsung 武宗
with inscription
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元

Hour 71
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89 ants nosn

RECOMMANDÉE

R CADAUJAC 353

U. S. CUSTOMS PASSED FREE No. 5 POST OF NEW YORK

Expéditeur:-
A. M. TRACEY WOODWARD
Château Millefleurs
Cadaujac (Gironde) France

REGISTERED NEW YORK, N.Y. (SUB. M) SEP 30 1936

M^r Howland Wood
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway between 155th & 156th Streets
New York N.Y.
Etats Unis d'Amérique

35 Ek

October 1, 1936

Mr. A. M. Tracey Woodward,
Chateau Millefleurs
Cadaujac (Gironde) FRANCE

Dear Mr. Woodward:

Your bound copy of the Minted Ten Cash-Coins of China is at hand and I hasten to acknowledge it and thank you for sending this on. We are very glad to have this in our Library as it is in much more convenient form than the sections as they originally came out.

Things have been very dull here for some time and although business is picking up we ourselves see very little change.

Trusting you are well, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks